

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB2004/003162

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 F42D5/045 E04H15/20

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 F42D E04H

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 95/08749 A (PARKES JOHN HUMPHRIES ; SALTER STEPHEN HUGH (GB)) 30 March 1995 (1995-03-30)	1,5,8,11
A	page 13, line 18 - page 20, line 8; figures 1-8	7,9
A	----- FR 2 537 091 A (SCHUFFENECKER ROBERT) 8 June 1984 (1984-06-08)	1,2,5-10
	page 4, line 6 - page 6, line 29; figures 1-8	
A	----- US 3 432 609 A (BRION ALBERT E JR ET AL) 11 March 1969 (1969-03-11)	1,2,6-10
	column 2, line 20 - column 4, line 44; figures 1-5	
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

G document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 November 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

30/11/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	GB 2 374 625 A (JAMES PETER) 23 October 2002 (2002-10-23) cited in the application page 6, line 15 - page 7, line 25; figures 1-3 -----	1,5,6,8, 9
A	GB 2 314 614 A (PARKES JOHN HUMPHRIES) 7 January 1998 (1998-01-07) page 2, line 15 - page 6, line 24; figures 1-4 -----	1,5-8

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Information on patent family members

PCT/GB2004/003162

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 9508749	A	30-03-1995	AU	7787294 A	10-04-1995
			DE	69420585 D1	14-10-1999
			DE	69420585 T2	24-02-2000
			EP	0738381 A1	23-10-1996
			WO	9508749 A1	30-03-1995
			GB	2289750 A ,B	29-11-1995
			US	5719350 A	17-02-1998
			GB	2298911 A ,B	18-09-1996
			GB	2294105 A ,B	17-04-1996
			GB	2292997 A ,B	13-03-1996
FR 2537091	A	08-06-1984	FR	2537091 A1	08-06-1984
US 3432609	A	11-03-1969	NONE		
GB 2374625	A	23-10-2002	EP	1368548 A1	10-12-2003
			WO	02072981 A1	19-09-2002
			US	2004091181 A1	13-05-2004
GB 2314614	A	07-01-1998	GB	2337805 A ,B	01-12-1999

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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 12
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 12

Claim 12 is not clear (Article 6 PCT), because it does not disclose clear additional technical features. Moreover, claim 12 contains an unnecessarily reference to the drawings, contrary to Rule 6.2 PCT.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.